



PRESS RELEASE

City of Akron 166 S. High Street Akron, Ohio 44308
(330)-375-2345 Fax:(330)- 375-2468
Web: www.akronohio.gov

For Immediate Release

Contact: Stephanie York, Director of Communications
syork@akronohio.gov or 330-375-2345 (w) / 330-289-1467 (c)

**It's About Playing Catch and Throwing Strikes...
and Walking in Parades!**

All American Baseball & Softball Parade is May 12

Akron, Ohio (May 10, 2012) - On May 12 at 11 a.m., 1,500 little leaguers will be lining up on Main Street for the third annual All-American Baseball & Softball Parade. Teams will be coming from North Akron, Goodyear Heights, Ellet, Kenmore, West Akron Little League, and West Akron Baseball League.

Main street will be shut down to traffic at 10:50 am for the parade, which will step off rain or shine at Main and Cedar streets downtown and run north along Main to Bowery. The route will head west on Bowery and end behind Lock 3.

“All of the kids love walking in a big parade downtown. This event is all about honoring them and making them feel special,” said Akron’s Community Event Coordinator Brittany Schmoekel.

The City of Akron Recreation Bureau will present trophies immediately following the parade from the stage at Lock 3, and 98.1 WKDD will announce each parade unit from the judges’ stage located near the end of the parade route on Main Street across from Lock 3.

Each participating baseball or softball player will receive one wristband to be used to redeem a free lunch (hot dog, chips, and beverage) at Lock 3 following the parade. Food and beverages will also be available for purchase.

Lock 3 Activities Immediately Following the Parade

Activities will run from 11:30 am – 2:00 pm

- Awards ceremony on stage immediately following the parade
- Costumed characters including Frankie & Hamlet from Sugardale, Gilby, Orbit, and Wheelie
- Free lunch and raffle ticket for players marching in parade
- Food and drinks available for purchase
- Music and games provided on stage by Beach Boyz Entertainment
- Games and activities
- Free behind the scene tour of Canal Park the Aeros Stadium from 11:30- 1:00 pm (meet under the bridge for tours – signs will be posted.) Tours last approximately 15 minutes.
- Kids can enjoy the Obstacle Course, Moon Walk, Titanic Slide, Rock Climbing Wall, Inflatable Castle, and Bungee Trampoline provided by Party Animals. Tickets required.
 - Tickets: 1 ticket/ \$1, 6 tickets/\$5, 12 tickets/\$10, 25 tickets/\$20

Prizes, Prizes, Prizes

Prizes include: Akron Aeros loge, bikes, Cleveland Indians gifts, and more. Each team participant in the parade will receive a free raffle ticket to enter to win the raffle item of his or her choice.

Winners must be present to receive prizes.

End.